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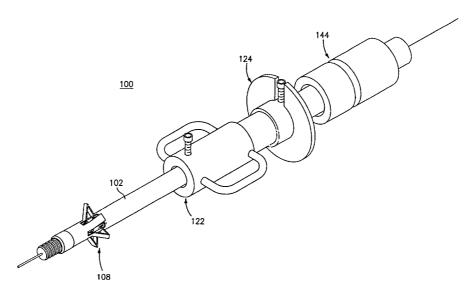
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ANASTOMOSIS INCLUDING AN ANCHORING SLEEVE



(57) Abstract: Apparatus for performing a surgical anastomosis are disclosed. The apparatus include a tubular body having a proximal end and a distal end, an onion sleeve portion formed near the distal end of the tubular body and an inner tube disposed within the tubular body. The inner tube includes at least one pair of longitudinally aligned needle passages formed below the onion sleeve portion of the tubular body. The apparatus further includes at least one needle assembly disposed within the at least one pair of longitudinally aligned needle passages and a firing assembly operatively coupled to the proximal end of the tubular body. The firing assembly is configured and adapted to eject the pair of needles from the apparatus.





INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A CLASSII	FICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER				
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According to	International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classificat	ion and IPC			
	SEARCHED		-		
	cumentation searched (classification system followed by classification	n symbols)			
IPC 7	A61B				
Documentat	ion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that su	ch documents are included in the fields se	arched		
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Electronic d	ata base consulted during the international search (name of data bas	e and, where practical, search terms used)			
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	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the rele	vant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
Α	US 5 545 171 A (GOLDWASSER BENAD	ET AL)	1		
	13 August 1996 (1996-08-13)				
	figure 13				
Α	WO 00 59380 A (COALESCENT SURGICA	L INC)	1		
	12 October 2000 (2000-10-12)				
	figures 20A-20F				
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Furt	her documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	χ Patent family members are listed	in annex.		
° Special ca	ategories of cited documents :)) (" 1) -		
,		"T" later document published after the inte or priority date and not in conflict with	the application but		
'A' docum	ent defining the general state of the art which is not dered to be of particular relevance	cited to understand the principle or the invention	eory underlying the		
	document but published on or after the international	"X" document of particular relevance; the o	laimed invention		
filling date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to 'L' document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone					
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	n or other special reason (as specified) ent referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or	cannot be considered to involve an in- document is combined with one or mo			
other	means	ments, such combination being obvious in the art.			
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Date of the	actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international sea	arch report		
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)					
This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:					
1. X Claims Nos.: 9-16 because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely: Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery					
Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:					
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).					
Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)					
This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:					
As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.					
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.					
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:					
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:					
Remark on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.					

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

information on patent family members

Internation pplication No
PCT/US 03/11692

1	ent document in search report	Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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